

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-5 as follows:

1. (amended) A composition comprising:

(a) a polypeptide that comprises the amino acid sequence of a polypeptide encoded by a cDNA contained within a plasmid selected from the group consisting of plasmid pBEC580, designated as ATCC No. 97236, plasmid pBEC 10, designated as ATCC No. 97235, and plasmid pBL58, designated as ATCC No 97237; and

(b) a physiologically acceptable diluent.

2. (amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide comprises amino acids 1-185 of human HVEM.

3. (amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide is soluble.

4. (amended) The composition of claim 3, wherein said soluble polypeptide does not comprise a rabbit immunoglobulin heavy chain amino acid sequence.

5. (amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein said cDNA comprises nucleotides 294 to 1142 of SEQ ID NO:1.

pBEC 10  
has neo  
pBEC580 has  
rabbit Ig heavy chain